



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8

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Ref: 8P-W-UIC

Honorable Harold Frazier, Chairman
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe
P.O. Box 590
Eagle Butte, South Dakota 57625-0590

Re: Request for Consultation on the Dewey-Burdock Uranium Recovery Site

Dear Chairman Frazier:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 8 Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program received your letter on December 23, 2015, directing us to contact your office to schedule a formal consultation meeting in Eagle Butte. After our March 8, 2016, meeting in Eagle Butte was cancelled, we made several additional attempts to contact you and called your office a number of times to schedule another meeting date for consultation. We would like to schedule a consultation meeting with you and other Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal leaders before the EPA considers issuing the draft UIC permits for the proposed injection activity at the Dewey-Burdock uranium recovery site.

We request your reply before August 31, 2016, to Valois Shea of my UIC Program staff at (800) 227-8917, extension 312-6276 or (303) 312-6276; or by email at shea.valois@epa.gov, indicating whether or not you would like to schedule a formal consultation meeting before the UIC draft permits are issued. Please understand that if we do not have the opportunity to meet with you before the end of September 2016, the EPA will need to continue with our UIC permitting process. In the event the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe opts to pass on consultation prior to any draft permit issued in this matter, the EPA maintains that it will continue to provide consultation opportunities in the event we issue draft permits.

We would like to emphasize that issuance of draft UIC permits is not an approval of the permitted activity and does not allow construction or injection activity to begin at the site. Issuing the draft permits begins the public participation process and provides an opportunity for the Tribe and other interested parties to see our proposed permits and provide comments on them.

CONCUR	Author + ext.	First initial + last name							
	Valois Shea	Office code							
	x6276	Date							

We will continue to communicate with the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe and hope that the Tribe will accept our invitation to consult both before and after the EPA issues any draft permits.

Sincerely,

Darcy O'Connor
Acting Assistant Regional Administrator
Office of Partnerships and Regulatory Assistance

cc: Mr. Remi Bald Eagle
Mr. Steve Vance

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